BIOGRAPHICAL.

SKETCH

OF THE LIFE AND CHARACTER OF

SIR WILLIAM JONES.

[From the Asiatic Annual Register.]

(Concluded from page 194.*)*

HE had long ardently desired to study the Sanscreet language, and this desire was considerably increased by the great progress which he found Mr. Wilkins had made in this ancient idiom, and still more by that gentleman's translation of the *Bhavat-Geeta*. He therefore commenced his studies in the Sanscreet without delay, and in the course of three years made himself so completely master of it, that the most enlightened professors of the doctrine of Brahma "confessed," says lord Teignmouth, in his admirable discourse on the death of his friend, "with pride, delight, and surprise, that his "knowledge of their sacred dialect was most critically "correct and profound. And the Pundits, who were "in the habit of attending, when I saw them after his "death, at a public durbar, could neither suppress their "tears for his loss, nor find words to express their ad-"miration at the wonderful progress which he had made "in their sciences."

The pertinacious and unwearied diligence with which he applied to his studies, deserves to be recorded. He made a regular distribution and allotment of his time. — He rose at day-break, and studied till breakfast-time;

after which, during terms, he attended his duty in the ſupreme court, from whence he returned home at three o'clock, and ſtudied till four—he then went to dinner, where he generally had a ſelect party of friends aſſembled, whom he entertained with the utmoſt gaiety till ſeven, when he returned to his literary labors, and did not again quit them till midnight. This was his conſtant habit, from which he ſeldom or never deviated.—No man enjoyed more than he did the delights of friendly intercourſe and the feſtive pleaſures of ſociety; but all his pleaſures were ſubſervient to the paramount gratification he derived from the ſucceſsful purſuit of the great end he had in view, that of ſerving his country and inſtructing mankind; for what Johnſon ſays of Pope may with ſtrict truth be applied to him—"That he was "one of thoſe few whoſe labor is their pleaſure."

Notwithſtanding the great attention which his profeſſional duties, and the preparation of his many valuable diſcourſes to the Aſiatic Society required, he found time to write and publiſh ſome works no leſs curious than important, between the years 1788, and 1793.—Theſe were an Engliſh verſion of the Arabic text of the *Sirajeyyah*, or Mahommedan law of inheritance, with a commentary; the Inſtitutes of Menu, literally tranſlated from the Sanſcreet, with a learned preface, illuſtrative both of the antiquity and value of the work;—and an elegant tranſlation of the drama of *Sacontala*, from the ſame language. The firſt of theſe performances he printed at his own expence, and ſold for the benefit of inſolvent debtors; an action ſo diſintereſted, that it will ſerve to do away a very erroneous notion entertained by ſome people, that Sir William Jones was ſelfiſh and penurious.

But the moſt uſeful work in which he was ever engaged, and upon which, therefore, he was the moſt intent, he did not live to complete. This was a copious digeſt of Hindu and Mahommedan law, compiled from Sanſcreet and Arabic originals, a plan of which he had preſented to government, who had given it their moſt libe-

ral patronage and ſtrenuous ſupport.* The Pundits employed in the undertaking, had concluded their part of it, and the Moluvees had nearly finiſhed the portion which it was their buſineſs to ſupply, when the hand of death arreſted the progreſs of the work, and deprived ſociety of a *Jones.*

In April 1794, he was attacked with a billious complaint, which, after a few weeks, proved ſo obſtinate, that it baffled the utmoſt ſkill of his phyſicians; and on Sunday morning, the 27th of the ſame month, he died, agreeably to the uniform tenor of his life, a patriot, a philoſopher, and a Chriſtian.

He was buried the day following, with all the reſpect belonging to his rank; and what is more valuable, with all the honors due to his virtue.

No monument has yet been erected to his memory; but we underſtand that a cenotaph ſuitable to the high merits of his character, with a Latin inſcription, written by one of the firſt ſcholars of the age, is now preparing, and will be placed in St. Paul's.

The following epitaph, however, which he wrote on himſelf, and which is juſt as it is terſe and claſſical, will doubtleſs be acceptable to the public.

Here was depoſited,
The mortal part of a man
Who feared God, but not Death;
And maintained independence,
But ſought not riches:
Who thought
None below him but the baſe unjuſt,
None above him but the wiſe and
virtuous:
Who loved
His parents, kindred, friends, country,
With an ardour

* Fortunately for the intereſts of Britiſh India, as well as for the happineſs of the native inhabitants of that country, abilities have ſince been found adequate to the high taſk of executing the moſt material part of this great undertaking. The genius, learning and aſſiduity of Mr. Colebrook, have enabled him to give a complete verſion of the Hindu Digeſt, which has been printed at the Honorable Company's preſs in Calcutta, and which we hope will ſoon be publiſhed in this country.

Which was the chief ſource of
All his pleaſure and all his pains:
And who, having devoted
His life to their ſervice
And to
The improvement of his mind,
Reſigned it calmly,
Giving glory to his Creator;
Wiſhing peace on earth,
And with
Good-will to all creatures,
On the——day of——
In the year of our bleſſed Redeemer,
MDCC——

Sir William Jones was of a genteel and graceful perſon, and of a countenance open, manly, vivacious, and ſerene. His deportment was dignified, yet eaſy; his addreſs courteous, yet plain; and his manners poliſhed, yet familiar; ſo that upon a firſt acquaintance, he not only excited the admiration, but ſecured the eſteem of the perſon he converſed with.

In the ſociety of his friends, if his converſation did not ſparkle with wit, it was at leaſt, illumined with cheerfulneſs; and though he ſeldom ſaid any thing ſtriking or forcible, he always illuſtrated, in the moſt pleaſant manner, every topic that was diſcuſſed, and conveyed inſtruction with a modeſty and elegance that at once captivated and informed the mind.

But this placidity and gentleneſs did not proceed from a conſtitutional tameneſs and langour, to which thoſe qualities are ſometimes with truth attributed; they ſprang from the union of that temperance and liberality which a virtuous habit had reared in his mind, and which, therefore, had become a part of his nature. Nor was he wanting in any of the other qualities which belong to theſe great virtues. He was ſedate, moderate, and cautious; but at the ſame time animated, aſpiring, and generous—He poſſeſſed a proud honor, an inflexible firmneſs, and a high ſenſe of juſtice; yet he had not in his diſpoſition any thing of haughtineſs, or obſtinacy, or auſterity—for his pride conſiſted in the love of independence, his reſolution in keeping aloof from the temptations of vice, and his idea of equity in preſerving

peace and happineſs among man, by making the laws lovely rather than ſevere.

He was no leſs eſtimable in public than in private life. In both we contemplate his character with peculiar ſatisfaction. As a public man, whether we conſider his fine taſte, the ſtrength of his mental faculties, or the vaſt extent and variety of his acquirements, we are equally enamoured of his talents. His intelectual powers were of the higheſt order. The force and clearneſs of his underſtanding no paradox could perplex; the quickneſs of his intuition ſaw through ſyſtems at a glance; the ſolidity of his judgment even his lively fancy could but ſeldom warp; and the retentive vigour of his memory nothing uſeful or elegant ever eſcaped. To theſe properties he added a fertile imagination, a luminous comprehenſion, and an elaſticity of mind which gave a certain ſpring and activity to all the operations of his genius.

His mind thus conſtituted was enriched and embelliſhed with the collective ſcience and learning of all times, and of all nations. He was deeply verſed in every branch of human knowledge, and was familiarly acquainted, not only with the Hebrew, Greek and Latin, but alſo with the Sanſcreet, Arabic, Perſian, Turkiſh, and with the French, Italian, Spaniſh, Portugueſe, and German languages. Yet he conſidered the acquiſition of various languages uſeful only inaſmuch as it enlarged his knowledge of philoſophical grammar, and thereby aſſiſted his inquiries into the hiſtory of man.

His numerous and elegant tranſlations, evince his thorough acquaintance with the radical principles of univerſal grammer, as well as with the roots of the particular languages on which he treats, while they ſhow the keeneſt penetration and the moſt exquiſite taſte.

Upon the whole, Sir William Jones was unqueſtionably one of the moſt extraordinary men that ever appeared in the republic of letters! and, at the ſame time, one of the beſt men that ever figured on the ſtage of life!

SKETCH
OF
SAMUEL ADAMS,
LATE GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS.

By James Sullivan.

THE virtues and patriotiſm of paſt ages ought to be celebrated for the benefit of mankind ; and examples of good and great men, muſt be handed down to their children, for the promotion of ſocial happineſs. Thus the ancient nations paid divine honors to their heroes and patriots, whilſt a people, enlightened by divine inſpiration, conſecrated the precepts and examples of pious anceſtors, as the laws of their poſterity.

In a country replete with ſcience, where every nerve is on the ſtretch, and every muſcle in exertion for the public weal, where induſtry and enterprize accumulate public and private wealth ; where civil ſecurity, and political felicity ſeem attached to the ſoil as its natural atmoſphere, it is not eaſy to find characters, ſo permanent in the features of public virtue, as to bear the ſtronger touches of the painter's hand. But our nation, having been but lately brought into exiſtence ; and having in its birth, been attended with circumſtances aſtoniſhing to the world, we find in its progreſs to ſovereignty and independence, a conſtellation of characters, which will be revered as long as the rights of mankind ſhall be reſpected. Among theſe, the patriotic virtues of the man, whoſe funeral obſequies, were on the 6th October, ſolemnly performed by thouſands of his fellow citizens, gave him an elevated, and diſtinguiſhed rank.

SAMUEL ADAMS, was born in Boſton, from an ancient and reſpectable parentage of the firſt ſettlers of New-England, on the 27th day of September 1722.— Having paſſed through the previous preparations at the ſchool in Boſton, he entered as a ſtudent at Harvard College in Cambridge, in the year 1736. The four years there allowed, to lay the foundation of a future uſefulneſs, were not loſt to him, or to his country ; he

obtained the honors of the univerſity, not becauſe he had been there the uſual term, but becauſe his aſſiduous attention to literary acquirements had rendered him worthy of them.

After he retired from the univerſity, he attempted a concern in the buſineſs, in which his father had been connected; but it was eaſily ſeen, that the propenſity of his nervous and elevated mind, were not turned to the accumulation of property, or the charms of wealth. He was, very ſoon, invited to public avocations by his native town. Long before the dawnings of the American Revolution, he was elected, by the town of Boſton, a repreſentative in the general court, and was continued there by repeated elections, until he was deſignated as a member of Congreſs, in the year 1774.

The ſituation of his country had opened a wide, and important field for the diſplay of his ſingular genius, and extenſive capacity. The claim of Great Britain *to legislate for the colonies in all cases whatever*, drew in its train, conſequences of vaſt importance to both countries. Without ſuch an authority, it would be difficult to maintain the connection of a parent ſtate with provinces;—with the exerciſe of it, the coloniſts were depreſſed below the grade of Britiſh ſubjects, and reduced to a ſtate of ſlavery.

There were but very few, whoſe minds could comprehend the important deſtinctions which were then agitated, or whoſe reaſoning could diſcern the approaching events of the controverſy.

There have been at all times, in all countries, men prepared for national exigencies. Mr. Adams ſeems to have been peculiarly formed for the eventful period of his life. His mind was ſingularly powerful in tracing the reſult of political principles; and the firmneſs of his heart never failed to ſupport his efforts, whenever he was convinced of the rectitude and propriety of the object he purſued. He preſſed his meaſures with ardour, becauſe they were founded on calculations, drawn from principles tending to the glory and independence of his country. His courage derided the bars thrown in the

way of his career, while the ſegacity of his mind pierced the clouds in which ſophiſtry involved the ſubject before him. By this, he was enabled to explain, in the moſt convincing, and impreſſive manner, the depreſſion of the colonies, unleſs a firm and noble ſtand was then made againſt the claim of the king and parliament. He met oppoſitions, and threatenings, with an intrepid firmneſs, peculiar to himſelf; and with an eye of careleſs indifference looked upon dangers as mere incidents in the progreſs of great events.

In the aſſemblies, where the foundation of the American Revolution was formed, where the principles and ſyſtems of government, on which the ſecurity and felicity of mankind depend, were drawn into diſcuſſion, his manly eloquence was never reſiſted with ſucceſs; his opponents were obliged to yield in ſilence, only hoping for a change by the means of an army, more favorable to their views. His rhetoric was not a torrent of figurative language, but an impreſſive, ſedate ſtrain of reaſoning, which could never fail to awaken the intereſted, or to convince the unprejudiced hearer. His pen was no leſs powerful than his tongue. A mind, well ſtocked with the ſentiments of a Sidney, a Locke, and other great men, who had contended againſt monarchical and eccleſiaſtical tyranny; with an education which had given it the entire poſſeſſion of all the principal ſyſtems and abuſes of the ancient Grecian, and Roman republics, as well as of the deſpotiſms of the world, was capable of carrying conviction to the hearts of all who had not been bribed againſt their own freedom, or who had not ſuffered themſelves to be betrayed by the alurements of avarice and ambition, or by the impreſſion of fear.

A memorable period of Mr. Adams's life, was that in which the Britiſh miniſtry proſcribed him and Mr. Hancock. A pardon was freely offered to all in the oppoſition excepting John Hancock and Samuel Adams. Juſtly deeming this, as the token of deſpair in a deceived and weak adminiſtration, he held the meaſure in contempt, and continued his exertions to prepare his coun-

try for the laſt and moſt ſolemn appeal, which he ſaw near at hand.

In the year 1776, he was, before had b-n, and long after continued to be, an influential member of the congreſs. With Franklin, John Adams, John Hancock, Thomas Jefferſon, and other great men, he formed and ſigned the act, which gave the United States a ſtanding, with the nations of the earth, on the floor of independent ſovereignty.

There was yet a ſcene to be paſſed through, which was intended by the good genius of America, to exhibit the richeſt beauties of the tree of liberty.

The declaration of independence was expected but by a few; new in idea to a great many, and conſidered by numbers in every ſtate, as a raſh and daring meaſure. The American army was then poorly fed, badly armed, wretchedly cloathed, and miſerably paid. The paper currency, our only reſource, was in a rapid depreciation, and there appeared to be nothing elſe to depend on, but the magnanimity of the people, and the goodneſs of their cauſe.

At this criſis, Lord Howe, Lord Carliſle, and Mr. Eden, landed as commiſſioners from the king of England, with offers of peace and reconciliation. They were ſurrounded by a well commanded, and well diſciplined army, ſupported by a numerous fleet, and filled with the anticipation of conqueſts over the "*Arch-Rebel Waſh-*" "*ington,*" and that "*Traiterous band of uſurpers called*" "*the Congreſs.*" But a general pardon was offered, without an exception of even *Hancock* and *Adams.*— The Congreſs, with a dignity well worthy of the rulers of an older, and more powerful nation, delegated to Dr. Franklin, John Adams, and John Rutledge, the authority of a conference with the Engliſh commiſſioners.— Within the camp of the invading, and ſeemingly irreſiſtable army, the delegates of Congreſs liſtened to the overtures of the royal commiſſioners, while they reaſoned upon the neceſſity of a receſſion from the ground of independence; and then gravely replied, according to

their inſtructions, that the United States had become an independent nation; that they had no voice but that of an independent ſovereign power, and there could be no diſcuſſion of any propoſition, which did not acknowledge the independence of the American nation—Thoſe inſtructions were iſſued on the motion of Samuel Adams, as the members there have aſſerted.

At this important moment, General Waſhington was retreating before the Engliſh army, in every part of the country; and Congreſs was obliged to fly from Philadelphia, and find a place, where, out of reach of the Britiſh army, they could mature their councils, and iſſue their orders. Under theſe exigencies, Mr. Adams appeared cheerful and undiſmayed. No cloud was ſpread over his countenance; with eaſe and firmneſs he committed his perſonal fate to the ſame barque, where the liberty and deſtiny of his country were confided.

The ſtate of Maſſachuſetts, was then conſidered as the moſt effective and important ſtate in the Union.—To keep the people here, firm and collected, under increaſing and multiplied misfortunes, was an object of magnitude. To this Mr. Adams conſtantly and aſſiduouſly attended. His letters explained the reaſons of every retreat, and the cauſes of each defeat; they unveiled the hopes and proſpects of the country, in ſuch a manner, that the friends of independence were exceedingly multipled by his exertions.

There is, however, a circumſtance that has been uſed as an objection to his character, which muſt be noticed in this place.

While he cautiouſly concealed the comparative weakneſs of his country, and anxiouſly ſought for a foreign alliance, he felt the force of foreign objections to ſuch a meaſure, reſulting from our troops having conſtantly fled before the Engliſh army. France, the natural and habitual enemy of England, and with whom we therefore courted an alliance, concluded that we were not united in our declaration of independence, or that there was a native cowardice in our character, which we could not purge away by the force of political enthuſiaſm. Mr.

Adams was therefore, impatient for a general action, to wipe away theſe injurious aſperſions, and to obviate theſe fatal objections. He confided in the enthuſiaſm of the American army, more than in the efficiency of diſcipline.—General Waſhington was unwilling to riſk too much on one action; and while he was diſciplining his troops, at an eaſy charge, the enemy were waſting theirs at a great expence.

The battle of Bennington, and the glory of Saratoga Plains, fully ſupported the opinion of Mr. Adams.—Burgoyne's army ſurrendered on the 17th of October 1777, and the king of France ſigned a treaty of alliance with the United States, which had been long deſired, on the 6th of February 1778. The conduct of General Waſhington as commander of the army, throughout the whole war, was prudent, cautious and valiant. There can be no difficulty in ſuppoſing, that both theſe great men were right and correct in their opinions; but the enemies of Adams, and the enemies of Waſhington, conſpired with the enemies of the Revolution, to ſow the ſeeds of jealouſy and diſcord between them.

The treaty of peace with England, in 1783, acknowledging the independence of the United States, accompliſhed the wiſhes of Mr. Adams. He was then in a ſituation to contemplate his own paſt conduct in review—With inexpreſſible ſatisfaction, his penetrating eye had long diſcerned, and his patrotic ſoul had long anticipated the *acme* of glory to which his country would ariſe. There is no doubt among his intimate friends, and indeed it is well known to his confidential compatriots, that he was the firſt man in America, who contemplated the idea of a ſeparation of the colonies from the mother country. He was convinced, that the connection could not be continued upon a plan, which would ſecure to the coloniſts, what was then called the rights of Engliſhmen. His exertions, therefore, all tended to a ſeparation. By his ſpeeches, and Gazette productions, a large majority was procured and maintained in Maſſachuſetts, in oppoſition to the claims of the miniſtry. It has been ſaid, that he was the man

who originated a Congreſs of the colonies; he certainly was the firſt man who propoſed it in this ſtate, though Governor Bowdoin and Dr. Franklin were with him in the meaſure. The cauſe had long been the common cauſe of all; but there was an abſolute neceſſity to render their oppoſition as conſolidated as their intereſt was. In the year 1774, after the parliament had paſſed an act to repeal a part of the charter of this then province, General Gage carried the General Court from Boſton, which he was taught by the royaliſts to call the hot bed of ſedition, to the town of Salem. There the Houſe of Repreſentatives, and the Council, then one branch of the Legiſlature, appointed a committee of ſeventeen, to conſider and report on the ſtate of the Province.—Adams was one of courſe. In this committee there happened to be four members, who were for ſubmitting to the mother country in all her claims. When they had wearied themſelves with hypothetical arguments in this way, they adjourned from time to time to meet again. The thirteen who was oppoſed to the four, met by themſelves and formed, and reported a plan for a general Congreſs; this report was introduced by Mr. Adams, to the great aſtoniſhment of the four of the committee from whom it had been kept ſecret, as well as to the amazement of their adherents. This ſecreſy was neceſſary, becauſe the Governor would have diſſolved the legiſlature, if he had had a hint of what the majority of the committee intended. The doors were cloſed—the report accepted, and the members choſen before a diſſolution of the Legiſlature was effected by the Governor.

When the Congreſs of the colonies aſſembled, they unanimouſly petitioned the king for a redreſs of grievances—this petition was founded, pretty much in the principles which had been advanced by Mr. Dickenſon, in his letters, under the ſignature of the Pennſylvania Farmer. When Mr. Adams returned from Congreſs in the fall of the year, he gave but little encouragement, that the petition would be attended to, and therefore he urged the Provincial Congreſs, by eſtabliſhing maga-

zines, to be prepared for the laſt reſort. The Parliament could not conſiſtently with the Engliſh Conſtitution, relinquiſh its authority over the colonies, nor could the colonies conſiſtently with their rights as freemen, ſubmit to a Legiſlature in whoſe election they had no ſuffrage. This was not concealed from Mr. Adams; but an open avowal of his principles and plans would have diſconcerted the Whig intereſt, and deſtroyed the force of the oppoſition.

The petition of Congreſs was rejected, and Lexington battle, ſoon after announced what was to be done. The ſolemn iſſue was joined; and arms alone muſt decide the fate of millions.

The termination of the war, gave our patriot an opportunity to retire from the arduous buſineſs of Congreſs. He ſaw the inſufficiency of the inchoate inſtrument called the confederation, but reſted ſecure in the intelligence of his fellow citizens. Mr. Adams never yielded to the now faſhionable idea, that there is no ſuch thing as public virtue; or that the people of America cannot be the ſafe keepers of their own public intereſt. Such an idea goes, radically to the deſtruction of republicaniſm, and he therefore abhorred it. When the Federal Conſtitution was produced, he was in the convention of this ſtate, as a member from Boſton, to examine and ratify it; but ſome parts of it were not agreeable to him. The rendering the ſeveral ſtates amenable to the courts of the nation, reduced them as he ſuppoſed, to mere corporations, and by a diſſolution of the ſovereignty of each, it conſolidated the whole. He had no doubt but that a conſolidated government over ſuch a vaſt extent of country, and over ſuch a variety of characters, and ſuch infinitely modified property, would call for an army, and for a more coercive power, than was compatible with the principles of a republic. There were four other ſections or proviſions in that ſyſtem, which were objections in his opinion, and four out of the whole number, including the moſt material one, the ſuability of the ſtates, have ſince been altered to his wiſhes.

The peculiar ſituation of the ſtates at that time, rendered a national government indiſpenſible; and this gave ſome men a hope, that more than a mere republic would be procured, and at the ſame time gave the voices of ſtriplings a triumph over the grave experience of a learned patriot.

In the year 1794, on the death of Governor Hancock, Mr. Adams was by a general vote removed from the office of Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth, to that of Governor. In that office he had a critical, and cautious regard to the Conſtitution of the ſtate, for the principles of it were perfectly congenial to his ſentiments of government. He had been one of the convention which produced it, and one of the committee which digeſted and compiled it. The ſeparate ſovereignty of the ſtates, ſo far as it was guaranteed by the Federal Conſtitution, continued to be an object of his cloſe attention. For this he received abuſe from time to time, in ſome inſtances from places where he expected it, and in others from places whence abuſe never ought to come. His executive conduct, and his appointments were fully as reſpectable, as thoſe of any other Governor of the Commonwealth. In the office of Governor, he was continued by his fellow citizens, without any reſpectable oppoſition, until the year 1797, when the indications of three ſcore and fourteen years, pointed him to a voluntary ſtate of retirement.

The ſpeeches and addreſſes of Mr. Adams, while he was in the chair, are on the records of the Commonwealth. When he compoſed theſe he was in an advanced age, yet he ſpurned at the idea of aſſiſtance. When thoſe productions are compared with his ſpeeches in former times, and his writings in the vigor of his life, it muſt be conſeſſed, that the preſſure of years, and the anxious and eventful ſcenes he had been loaded with, had diminiſhed the vigorous energy of his mind. Yet theſe productions evince him to have been a man who had, with great induſtry, made himſelf maſter of the moſt uſeful ſentiments in a free government. The ideas they contain, appear to have been drawn from a repoſi-

tory richly filled with learning, proper for the ſupport of a free republic.

In the advanced age of his life, Mr. Adams delighted in a recapitulation of the ſcenes of the Revolution; in this, as in other circumſtances, he reſembled the late Earl of Chatham, who, while he was in advanced age, became impatient of all topics which did not relate to the French war, in which his adminiſtration had added gems to the crown of his nation. A recollection of the dangerous and difficult circumſtances of the war, which had been encountered by the courage, and overcome by the genius of his country, fell like the choiceſt cordials on the palſied nerves of Mr. Adams. To the advantages of education, trials and victories, Mr. Adams added the deportment of a gentleman—he was a well bred polite man. Among ſtrangers, and in mixed companies, he was reſerved and ſilent, but among his friends he was cheerful and companionable; was a lover of chaſte wit, and remarkably fond of anecdote.

There was never a charge againſt his moral character, even with his enemies, excepting the charge of his concealing his views in the dawnings of the Revolution; which they ſaw fit, as they were enemies to ſuch a meaſure, to denominate addreſs and hypocriſy. But in this he was juſtifiable; for, unleſs he could believe, that the whole body of the people, could diſcern and trace political effects from their deep cauſes, it would have been folly in him to have expoſed his views. He lived in a world, where one man had been burned for aſſerting the motion of the planets which is now known to every one, and where the originators of new theories have ſuffered diſgrace for expoſing ſyſtems, which, after ages have reſpected and honored.

Mr. Adams, through the whole courſe of his life, was a zealous profeſſor, and an exemplary performer of the duties enjoined by the Chriſtian Religion. He did not view it, merely as a ſyſtem of morals, but as a myſterious plan, to exhibit the benevolence of the Almighty to his rational offſpring on this earth, as the wiſe and benignant method to preſerve an intercourſe between

earth and heaven. On this ſyſtem he confided in the mercy of his Creator, and in this he had conſolation while he ſaw his diſſolution approaching.

There is no character ſo perfect as not to need an apology. Perhaps the ſtrict regard which Mr. Adams paid to the Chriſtian Sabbath as holy time, and the ſacred light, in which he held the Chriſtian ordinances, were offenſive to many, who delighted in the free thoughts of the preſent age. And there can be no doubt, but that the jealouſy of power, which he cultivated in more early life, as the faculties of his mind grew weaker, aſſumed, in ſome degree, the form of an oppoſition to government; but thoſe who knew him a few years ago, and are yet ſurviving, know that he had a punctilious regard to the execution of the laws, and delighted in a fair and vigorous adminiſtration of the juriſprudence of his country.

NATIONAL PREJUDICES OVERCOME;

OR THE HISTORY OF

SIR GEORGE OLIVER.

[From the French.]

(Concluded from page 198.)

THIS firſt interview had ſo deeply affected the Chevalier, that he never ceaſed ſpeaking to Charles of the happineſs he ſhould have in frequently ſeeing his ſiſter. But how was he to elude the ſevere injunctions of Sir George? for he could hardly bear to ſee the growing connection between the Chevalier and his ſon. If Charles even ſpoke before him a few French words, he was immediately checked. The uncle and the nephew had frequently repreſented, that the union which was likely to take place between the French and the Americans, would make it neceſſary for them to ſpeak the ſame language. Very well, he would ſay, let them learn ours. Charles ſaid, that in order to do ſo, it was neceſ-

the French and Engliſh ſhould frequently converſe

together ; but a look from Sir George, ever put an end to a converſation which he ſo little reliſhed.

This exceſſive ſeverity of the father, however, produced an effect very different from what he intended—the two friends, indeed, met leſs openly, but their friendſhip did not on that account abate. It was at theſe ſtolen interviews, that the Chevalier ventured to propoſe introducing Maria ; and you will ſerve, ſaid he to Charles, as an interpreter in the French and Engliſh leſſons which we all three will give one another ; for ſhe is even more ignorant of my language than I am of her's ; and if ever my expreſſions ſhould betray a want of reſpect to this amiable ſiſter, my friend will correct me. Although Charles ſaw no danger in theſe converſations, he delayed, however, the propoſing them to Maria ; but the Chevalier preſſed him with ſo much eagerneſs, that he was at laſt obliged to comply. Ah! but my father, exclaimed Maria, the moment it was mentioned to her.—He will know nothing of the matter.—But if the Chevalier ſhould love me? He will not love you, replied the innocent Charles, tranſported at the thoughts of being able to oblige his friend. And he was not much miſtaken, for the Chevalier already loved her to diſtraction ; and Maria herſelf, when ſhe expreſſed her fears of being loved, ſpoke not the language of her heart. Poſſeſſed of ſuch ſentiments of friendſhip, a ſhort period was ſufficient for them to form privately, a mutual attachment. Their firſt anxiety was to underſtand the language of one another. It therefore became the chief ſubject of their converſation. The Chevalier was every moment upon the point of betraying himſelf by the too great progreſs he made in the language of Maria ; but he ſaw the error he was guilty of, and confined himſelf to the knowledge of few words.

Maria became every day more uneaſy and more cautious to conceal from her father her private converſations with her brother and his friend. Let it not be thought, however, that they were unfaithful, either the one to her duty, or the other to hoſpitality. The hearts of

both were guided by honor, and Charles was ever witneſs to their mutual attachment.

The Chevalier was too full of his love to be able to reſtrain himſelf. He was, however, more on his guard with Sir George; but knew no reſerve in pouring out the ſecrets of his ſoul to his uncle. And this affectionate uncle, at the very time he pretended to find fault with the love of this young man, formed, without telling him, the project of an overture of marriage to Sir George: but it was neceſſary beforehand to root out the prejudices he entertained againſt the French; an enterprize equally hazardous and difficult. The news that the Captain often received from New-Port, and which he communicated to his Landlord, had eſtabliſhed betwixt them a kind of political intercourſe, which grew more frequent than it had been at its commencement.—Every event of the war furniſhed Sir George a new ſubject for daclaiming againſt what he called the ambition of France. At every arrival of the forces of that nation, he always inſiſted that the French had ſecret deſigns on ſome part of the American continent. But the Captain firmly maintained, that the moment the provinces were in ſecurity, the French would depart. Every converſation ended with additional obſtinacy on the part of Sir George, and gave riſe to new and ſtill warmer debates; which prevented theſe two politicians from being ſo warmly attached to one another as the three friends.

During theſe converſations, intelligence was received, that the French army, under the command of Count de Rochambeau had, by a long circuit, joined the Continental Army near York-Town, and that the naval armament from the Antilles, was going to take poſt in the entrance of the Cheſapeake. Sir George, always blinded by prejudice, ſaw nothing in this ſcheme but a deſign he had always accuſed France of, to conquer a great part of the continent of America. And ſeeing, towards the evening, an expreſs coming from New-Port, he did not doubt but it was an order to recall the Captain and his nephew.

The expreſs addreſſed Sir George, who ran to ſeek the Chevalier at his uncle's who was then in bed; but his nephew was not with him. He ſought him, in vain, every where; at laſt he came to Charles's chamber, the door of which he haſtily opened. But what was his ſurpriſe, and his rage, at finding there his ſon, his daughter, and the Chevaliar, in cloſe converſation with one another! His daughter he treated with the utmoſt ſeverity, he thruſt Charles out of the room, and loaded the Chevalier with the deepeſt reproaches; who flying for refuge to his uncle's apartment, was ſoon rejoined by Sir George. Here a torrent of the moſt violent imprecations was poured out againſt France and Frenchmen. The Captain oppoſed nothing to this fury but phlegmatic tranquility. At laſt, when his landlord exhauſted with fatigue and anger, could ſpeak no longer, he ſeverely reprimanded his nephew, and diſmiſſed him from his preſence. Being now alone with Sir George, he agreed that the Chevalier had been highly criminal in having tranſgreſſed his orders; but, added he, you ſhall ſee him no longer, as he is going to join his regiment. I am already acquainted with his love for your daughter; I know alſo the honor both of one and the other; and that Charles has never left them alone.—— See how generous theſe Frenchmen are, ſaid Sir George muttering.—Yes, they are ſo, replied the Captain; and I lay a wager, that after the ſucceſs of the grand expedition now in agitation, they will abandon your provinces, and leave them happy and triumphant under the empire of liberty.—Would you lay much, cried Sir George?—All I have moſt dear in the world; my nephew.—What do you mean!—He loves your charming and reſpectable daughter; promiſe me to give her in marriage to him, if there does not remain a ſingle Frenchman in your country, after the combined armies ſhall have procured its liberties.—In promiſing you this, I believe I promiſe but little.—Promiſe me then this little.—Be it ſo, upon the word of an Engliſhman.—— And they ſhook hands.

The three friends ſeparated; and in great conſterna-

tion anxiously waited the terrible effects of Sir George's resentment. Maria, a prey to the most bitter anguish, was sitting lamenting her unfortunate situation, when she beheld her father enter. At this moment she expected nothing but death. Sir George, in a deep and dismal tone, ordered her immediately to write to her brothers, and inform them of all that had past in their absence. He accompanied this order with no other words, but that it was necessary this letter should be ready against to-morrow morning—and then went out.

(To be Continued.)

ANECDOTE.

WHEN the Princess of Hesse d'Hamstadt brought her three daughters to the Empress of Russia, in order that she might chuse one of them as the wife of the Grand Duke, the Empress decided instantly in favor of the second. When her Majesty was asked the reason of this sudden preference, she replied—"I observed the "three Princesses from my window, as they descended "from their carriage. The eldest made a false step— "the second stept down in an easy and natural manner "—the third leaped out." Though this was a very singular manner of forming an opinion, it so happened that the first was awkward, and the youngest too forward.

APHORISM.

A GREAT woman not imperious—a fair woman not vain—a woman of common talents not jealous—an accomplished woman, who scorns to shine—are four Wonders, just great enough to be divided among the four quarters of the globe—*At least, so said* LAVATER.

DETACHED SENTENCE.

FORSAKE not an old friend; for the new is not comparable to him—a new friend is as new wine; when it is old, thou shalt drink it with pleasure.